



TAEP Producer Diversification Program Horticulture Criteria

For Fiscal Year 2012 – 2013

Program Criteria:

- This information is current as of **March 31, 2012** and is a supplement to the TAEP 2012 Application and Guidelines.
- **Producers** are eligible for the following cost share percentages for qualified expenses:
 - **Standard Producer** - 35% cost share up to a maximum of \$10,000.
 - **Master Producer** - 50% cost share up to a maximum of \$15,000 for producers meeting special requirements.
- The proposed activity must encompass **quality expansion** or **improvement** of the applicant's business. Eligible categories include:
 - Farm Infrastructure
 - Specialty Equipment
 - Marketing

Business Criteria:

- Applicant's business must produce the majority of their plants from seed or cutting to finished product.
- Businesses purchasing finished product to resale that equals a majority or more of their gross sales are not eligible.

Regulatory Requirements:

Producers must meet all state and local regulatory requirements to be eligible for cost share reimbursement. Applicants producing nursery stock, greenhouse plants, turfgrass, etc. must be licensed by the State of Tennessee. Contact the **TN Dept. of Agriculture – Regulatory Services** at (615) 837-5137 for more information on required permits.

Competitive Projects – Horticulture:

Priority is given to projects that are focused on improving or increasing production. Marketing projects are allowed but not considered as competitive as those involving production.

Master Producer Cost Share – Special Requirements for 50% Cost Share:

Who is eligible?

The applicant must complete the **UT Master Nursery Course**. Applicants may apply for 50% if they have completed or plan to attend the course. The course must be completed by the reimbursement deadline. TAEP staff will coordinate with UT Extension to obtain record of your attendance.

Examples of Eligible Items:

Aeration system - (flowers)	- shade system	Pump – irrigation, filter
Cold frames	- structure	Rolling carts
<u>Cold Storage</u> -	Heater – greenhouse	Sod harvester
- walk in cooler	High tunnel/hoop house	Soil mixer
- components	<u>Irrigation</u>	Spray equipment
Container production area	- controller system	Sprayer
Display – trade show	- drip	Thermal tag printer –
Drying house – flowers	- filter system	<i>Horticulture Only</i>
Fan – greenhouse	- overhead	Thermostat –
Fertilizer equipment	- pivot	<i>greenhouse</i>
Field planter	- pump	Tree baler - standing
Filter system - irrigation	<u>Lighting</u> -	Tree claw
Filter pump - irrigation	- greenhouse	Tree lifter/shaker
<u>Gravel</u> -	- not for aesthetics	Tree hauling wagons
- foundation	Loading area/dock	Tree spade
- propagation area	Packing building	Tree transplanter
- container production	Packing line equipment	Tree trimmer
<u>Greenhouse</u> -	Pond liner- irrigation system	Water level control
- covering	Potting building	Water storage tanks
- overwintering	Propagation building	Website development
	Propagation mats	Wood boiler

Examples of Ineligible Items:

Advertising	Containers - bottles, pots	- membership
Brochures	Driveways	Fencing
Building – storage	Electrical service	Fertilizer
Catalogs	<u>Fees</u>	Forklift
Chemicals	- domain	Fuel
Computers	- hosting	Give-a-way items
		Golf Cart

Insecticides
Labor – *applicant or employees of applicant*
Landscaping
Land – *clearing of*
Livestock
Maintenance of existing structures
Meeting expenses
Merchandise
Motorized vehicles
Mower
Office equipment

Permits
Pesticides
Plants – *liners/plugs*
Ponds – *digging of for a water source*
Product development
Property – *purchase or debt payment*
Renovations of existing structures
Seeds – *produce, nursery, flowers, etc*
Software

Store - *general*
Tractor
Trade show expenses
Trailers – *livestock*
Used equipment
Water source creation – *ponds/wells*
Website – *annual or hosting fees*
Wells – *drilling of*

Contact:

- For more information regarding the TAEP Producer Diversification Program – contact **Jon Frady** at 615-837-5344 or Producer.Diversification@tn.gov
- For information regarding TDA Market Development & Tennessee Nurseries – contact **Kyle Holmberg** at 615-837-5322 or Kyle.Holmberg@tn.gov
- Check for updates at www.tn.gov/taep or 1-800-342-8206